

Dear Members of Labor and Public Employees Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Renato Muguerza and I live in Hartford, Connecticut. I support Senate Bill No. 1178: An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days.

Paid sick days are crucial to the health and economic development of our cities and our state.

As someone who cares deeply about my neighbors of all backgrounds, it is crucial to use language that is as inclusive as possible when defining such a fundamental right.

Connecticut cannot fail our workers, neighbors, and families through exclusion. I urge this legislative body to pass S.B. 1178.

This is why I support an expansion of Paid Sick Days as outlined in S.B. 1178:

1. Cover all workers regardless of employer size or industry!
2. Eliminates the waiting period to take a paid sick day from 680 hours to immediately after you start working!
3. Include all types of family structures and relationships that will allow workers to care for a child of any age, as well as their chosen family! The bill would also allow you to take paid sick time to care for a family member who experiences family violence or sexual assault.
4. Increase the number of hours of paid sick time workers can accrue and use per year from 40 to 80 hours.
5. Protect against future pandemics by allowing paid sick time to be used when a worker's place of work or child's school/place of care is closed by public officials for a public health emergency!

Thank you for your time,  
Renato Murgueza Hartford, CT